

MISSOULA COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

facebook.com/MissoulaCountySheriffsOffice
twitter.com/MSLASHeriff



PRESS RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Deputy Paige Pavalone
Public Information Officer
Cell- (406) 531-0371
ppavalone@co.missoula.mt.us

For Immediate Release

Highway 12 Fires

The Missoula County Sheriffs Office announces that all homes between Bear Creek Road eastbound to Sleeman Gulch have been given pre-evacuation notices due to the growth of the Lolo Complex Fires. Residents may not receive second notification depending on the development of the fire and roadway accessibility. Several hundred homes have received notices thus far and County Deputies continue their efforts to make contact at every residence.

There are two fires in the Lolo Area: The West Fork Fire which began near Bear Creek and the Lolo School House Fire near Woodman School. Due to high winds, both fires spread at a rapid rate, placing structures in potential danger. The fires have consumed a combined total of 3500 acres. The DNRC confirmed that 4-8 structures have been lost to the fire.

Highway 12 has been completely closed to through traffic from the Idaho Border to the 93 South junction. The following areas have received pre-evacuations notifications:

Bear Creek
Elk Meadows
Arena Drive

Thayer Road
Mill Creek Road
Severin Meadows
Sleeman Gulch Road
Balsam Root Road
Graves Creek Road
Nez Pierce
Claims Stake
Lee Tennant Campground
Lolo Creek Campground
Chickaman Road
Lolo Creek residents between mm 25-15 have been given pre-evacuation notices.

Residents with disabilities or immobility are encouraged to evacuate as quickly as possible. Residents that have not yet received notification in the surrounding area are asked to ready their family and animals for evacuation. If further assistance is needed to evacuate animals, emergency staging for large livestock and horses will be at the Missoula County Fair Grounds. Lolo Elementary School is currently staging as an evacuation site. An up-to-the-minute information line for public inquiry is available regarding evacuated areas 406-258-INFO or (258-4636). MSCO Social Media is also being updated regularly. DNRC also has information available at Lolo Superstop at Highway 12 and 93 until 9:00 p.m. this evening.

#